



## AMERICAN NATIONAL CATHOLIC CHURCH

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### **American National Catholic Church Urges President to Reconsider Executive Orders**

On January 27, International Holocaust Remembrance Day, Mr. Trump signed an executive order mandating a 90-day ban on entry into the U.S. of citizens from 7 majority-Muslim nations. The ban included persons who had already been issued visas and green cards. He also authorized a 120-day suspension of all refugees and an indefinite one for Syrian refugees.

The American National Catholic Church joins all people of good will who lament this latest action on the part of the President. We have witnessed with dismay and growing concern the executive orders and incendiary rhetoric Mr. Trump has issued during his first week in office, of which the ban on immigration is but the most recent example.

Mr. Trump has taken steps to dismantle the Affordable Care Act, erect a border wall between Mexico and the U.S., recommence construction of environmentally risky pipelines, punish sanctuary cities, and pump billions of dollars into the military. He has displayed a disregard for truth in favor of "alternative facts," indulged in open and undisguised hectoring of the media, intelligence officials, and anyone who criticizes him, disregarded ethical standards by refusing to divest himself of his financial holdings, and advocated the resumption of torture and the renewal of black sites.

The Hebrew Patriarchs and Prophets, Jesus Christ, and the Prophet Mohammed (Peace be upon him) remind us that it is our duty to protect the most vulnerable among us, welcome the stranger, cherish the good earth which God has created, turn our swords into ploughshares, and build bridges instead of walls. We worry that Mr. Trump, during both the presidential campaign and his first week in the White House, is indifferent to these values.

The American National Catholic Church therefore sincerely urges Mr. Trump, who is an avowed Presbyterian, to prayerfully and contritely reflect on what it means for the President of the United States to act justly, to love mercy, and to walk humbly with God (Micah 6:8).